

literacy programmes. In addition, financial assistance is provided to States for modernization of Madrasas and Makhtabs to ensure students of these institutions to acquire education comparable to national educational system.

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas

†1206. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with regard to the approval of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas such development blocks which are educationally backward are being left only on this ground that there is less gender gap;

(b) whether attention is not being paid to this fact that educational level of girls is lower in that development blocks; and

(c) the reasons for not including such blocks which are educationally lower completely?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The criterion for identification of Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) for the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) scheme, is blocks where the female rural literacy is below the national average and the gender gap in literacy is above the national average. The rationale is to prioritize blocks where gender discrimination is more.

New courses in Banaras Hindu University

1207. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Banaras Hindu University has sent a proposal to Government with regard to its future expansion and introduction of new courses;

(b) whether it is a fact that this expansion will benefit around four States in the vicinity;

(c) if so, what is the proposal and how much amount has been requested by the university; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) how much amount has been so far given by his Ministry and by when the total amount will be given to BHU for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Banaras Hindu University has recently submitted a proposal for development of its South Campus at Barkachha, Mirzapur, involving an expenditure of Rs. 192.00 crore spread over a period of five years. Besides development of infrastructure, the proposal includes introduction of several new courses in the said Campus, which are likely to benefit students from the surrounding areas covering parts of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Chhattisgarh.

(d) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has approved an amount of Rs. 16.00 crore for the purpose during the current financial year out of which Rs. 12.00 crore have already been released. The UGC has been advised to include the remaining amount in its 11th Plan proposals.

Admission on MP's recommendation in KVs

†1208. **SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many students have been given admissions on the recommendation of Members of Parliament in the last three years; and

(b) whether keeping in view the increasing number of students, it has been decided to increase the number?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI): (a) Year-wise details of admission based on the nomination of Members of Parliament in the last three years are given below:—

Year	No. of Admission
2004-05	764
2005-06	1073
2006-07	1519

(b) No, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.